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Mr. Roger W. Jones Assistant Director for Legislative Reference Bureau of the Budget Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Jones:

I refer to your letter of 16 October 1956 requesting the views of this Agency on a draft bill To amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, which has been submitted by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

This Agency is extremely interested in the general problem to which this proposed amendment is addressed. You will recall that, with the consent of the Bureau of the Rudget, we strengly supported a recent proposal of the Department of Defense for an amendment to Section 143 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1956, as amended, which was enacted during the second session of the Sith Congress. Our views on this amendment were set forth in a letter from this office to you dated 24 May 1956, and its passage should greatly facilitate the necessary exchange of Restricted Data between properly cleared representatives of this Agency and of the Department of Defense.

As we understand it, the purpose of the amendment new proposed by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics is to eliminate the need for deplicate clearances and to make it possible for personnel certified for access to Restricted Data under Section 145 to exchange such data, as necessary, among themselves and with personnel cleared under the provisions of Section 145(b). If this interpretation is correct, we would favor an amendment of this type insofar as it applies to this Agency, although we are not in a position to comment on the wiedom of its general application to Executive agencies throughout the Government.

In connection with the over-all problem of clearances for access to Restricted Data, we would like to recall a letter of 25 May 1956 from the Acting Director of Central Intelligence to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget. In that letter, the views of this Agency on the problem of such clearances are set forth in some detail, and it is our hope that this general problem will be reviewed by the Bureau of the Budget with the interested agencies in connection with the legislative program of the President for the coming fiscal year.

Sincerely,

Norman S. Paul Legislative Counsel

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